

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1904.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second-Class Mail Matter.

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blished by The Sun Printing and Publishin Association at No. 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhatten, New York.

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President and Chairman.

What reasons, political or personal, have been potent enough to constrain so many conspicuous Republicans to decline the President's invitation to be chairman of his national executive committee and take charge of his campaign for another term?

The labors will no doubt be difficult and delicate, but have difficulty and delicacy been the deterrents?

The chef who, in the White House kitchen or the Cyster Bay scullery, is to "fry the fat" out of the plutocrats and corporations will need to exercise the skill of a real cardon bleu in order to prevent the odors of burning grease from offending the national nostril. The merged and consolidated railway systems of the land may not stay quietly n the frying pan. The "dumpers" may take the advice of Senator ALDRICH and refuse to remain in the pan to be tried by fire applied by the Department of Commerce, even if the fireman shall be the Head of the Department. The situation is critical.

licans fear that the erratic and strenuous chief may not, in the hour of victory, and after the next 4th of March, consent to be bound, if successful, by the anteelection pledges made by his chairman. The Governor of New York has shown

a way out. The President can be his own chairman, and in person "fry the fat," scatter it over a smiling land, and make his own campaign distributions and pledges.

Mr. Cortelyou on Cotton Trade.

Addressing the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association in Washington on May 11, Secretary Correlyou noted two facts regarding our cotton trade which he might well have brought into juxtaposition for use as an effective argument.

Mr. CORTELYOU stated that the import demand of the world for manufactured cotton has a value of \$600,000,000 a year. Elsewhere he noted the value of the export trade in American cottons as \$25,-000,000. That is less than 5 per cent. of the market demand. For our possessing so insignificant a share of an open market there is no valid reason. If we can sell \$25,000,000 worth of cotton in competition with the manufacturers in other countries, we can sell \$250,000,000 worth. In the sale of our present volume we have no advantage in reciprocity treaties or other political crutches. For the extension of our trade, the prime requisite is an increase of trade energy.

With this country as the producer of three-fourths of the world supply of raw material, 95 per cent. of the world trade is held by those to whom we sell that material, while we sit in contemplation of stocked warehouses and idle looms. We make \$300,000,000 worth of cotton goods a year for our own use. We might just as well make an equal amount for the use of other people. It is quite our own fault that we get no

larger share. It is not to be doubted that Mr. Con-TELTOU will most gladly lend all the possible support of his department to any efforts that may be made by manufacturers, merchants and export houses, but he should not be expected to do all the work.

Why Many Germans Wish Japanese Success

It will be remembered that when the sunk, the German Emperor telegraphed to the Czar from Sicily that Russia's It does not appear that WILLIAM II. has conveyed to the Mikado a similar expression of condolence for any of the casualties suffered by the Japanese. It is hard to reconcile such facts with the professed intention of the Berlin Government to observe a strict neutrality during the Far Eastern war. The difficulty seems to have been recognized by the Chancellor, Count von BCLOW, who, speaking on Monday in the Reichstag, tried to minimize the importance of the a mere outburst of human sympathy, it to the Republicans next November. reflecting, he said, the sentiment of a majority of the German people. There-Socialist party, and perhaps the most protested that the sympathies of most f his fellow countrymen were enlisted on the side of Japan.

There are a good many reasons, some elfish, some altruistic, why the lovers of free institutions in Germany should desire to see Russia beaten. Ever since the overthrow of NAPOLEON, except for a brief period, when ALEXANDER I. flirted with liberalism, the vast influence of the St. Petersburg Government has been exerted in favor of despotism all over the European continent. The Czar NICHOLAS I., it may be remembered, long refused to acknowledge the validity of LOUIS PHILIPPE'S claim to call himself King of the French, and it was he who later sent an army to put down the Magyar uprising for independence, which otherwise would have been successful. Twice during the last century the hope of regaining liberty which fired the heart of Poland was temporarily drowned in blood. It was but yesterday that we saw the guaranteed autonomy of Finland perfidiously brushed saide

age-long freedom. It is true that, for reasons of state and in order to maintain a balance of power in Europe, the Russian despot is were carried by the Republicans at the just now an ally of the French Republic, but no intelligent Frenchman doubts that the Court of St. Petersburg would rejoice to see his country's existing republican regime supplanted by a Boun-BON or a BONAPARTE. It is also true that, for upward of a century, we Americans | are these, and the Republican pluralities have never received anything but kind- at the last Presidential election, 1900, ness from the House of ROMANOFF; but a while we hope that we shall never ignore or belittle our obligations, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that other peoples, who also crave freedom, are less fortunate, and we may be allowed to

congratulate ourselves that we are forever walled off from Muscovite cupidity or jealousy by the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. So far as Europe is concerned, from the Pruth and the Vistula to the Straits of Gibraltar, there is no doubt that the lovers of self-government would fetch a deep sigh of relief if the prestige and influence of Russian absolutism could be suspended for a quarter of a century. Herr BEBEL was right, then, in asserting that all Germans who believe in representative institutions had cause to wish that the Russians should be beaten by the Japanese, for "the more Russia is weakened by the struggle, the less likely it becomes that she will meddle, directly or indirectly, with the affairs of Western Europe." There is, as we have said, another

and relatively altruistic reason why many Germans wish to see Japan succeed in a war which the Russian people never wanted and for which only a fraction of the St. Petersburg bureaucracy is responsible. If historical precedents may be relied upon to forecast the future, the hour that witnesses the eclipse of the dynasty of ROMANOFF in humiliation and despair will behold the sun of civilization rise upon the most backward land There is, perhaps, no foundation for in Europe. If Russia is ever to become a suggestion that these eminent Repub- a republic, or even to gain a substantial installment of representative government, it will be when, even in the eyes of the devout and loyal mujik, the whole fabric of Czardom has been weighed in the balance and found wanting. It was the overthrow of the Napoleonic despotism that gave France a constitution and led straight to a republic But for the degradation of Prussia, which followed Jena and Auerstadt, the HOHENZOLLERNS never would have sanctioned the agrarian, social and political reforms which have made Prussia what she is to-day. It needed the crushing defeat of his army at Sadowa, and the consequent loss of Venetia, to extort from FRANCIS JOSEPH the boon of Magyar autonomy, for which Kossuth had toiled in vain, together with a similar concession of representative institutions to the Cisleithan monarchy.

What happened in France, Prussia and Austria may reasonably be looked for in Russia also. Nay, we have a precedent more pertinent. So profound and alarming was the national unrest occasioned guised collapse of the St. Petersburg that within a very few years the Czarment. In order that Russia may be the abasement that seems to be in store

The Pivotal Importance of the Negro Vote of Northern States.

The importance of the negro vote in the States whose political complexion is most doubtful, so far as concerns the election of next November, is suggested by the statistics of the numbers of negroes of voting age in such States,

according to the census of 1900. In this table, besides those statistics, appear the Republican pluralities at the

atest elections of a	state officer	:s:
		Republican
	Negro Vote.	Plurality
California	8,711	1,550
Connecticut	4,576	16,000
Indiana	18,186	35,26
New Jersey	21,474	17,18
New York	81,425	8,38
the second secon		

It will be seen that the Republicans would have lost California, New Jersey Russian battleship Petropavlovsk was and New York except for the negro voters, for we assume that almost unanimously they voted the Republican ticket. mourning was Germany's mourning. In Connecticut the Republican plurality would have been reduced by much more than one-quarter if it had not included the negro votes; in Indiana by more than one-half.

Going back to the period before the advent of Bryanism, we find that Connecticut was carried by the Democrats by a plurality of 1,284 in 1884, by 336 in 1888 and by 5,365 in 1892. That State, therefore, is distinctively doubtful politically. Its political experience previously to Bryanism proves that even its Emperor's telegram by describing it as 4,576 negroes may not be able to save

The returns of the Presidential elections in Indiana before the Bryanite upon Herr BEBEL, the leader of the demoralization tell very much the same story. In 1884 the Democrats carried eloquent man in German public life, Indiana by a plurality of 6,512, and in rough workmanship, are effective up 1892 by a plurality of 7,125. In 1888 HARRISON carried the State by the small plurality of 2,348. In 1896 BRYAN was beaten by a plurality of 18,181, but by fewer votes than the 18,186 negroes of voting age in the State in 1900. In 1900. when he was beaten again by 26,470, negro votes seem to have made up more

than two-thirds of the plurality. A State which is incontestably doubtful, with a strong present leaning to the Democracy, is Rhode Island, where the negroes of voting age in 1900 numbered 2,765. In 1902 and 1903 Rhode Island was carried for Governor by the Democrate by pluralities of 7,738 and 1,303, respecttively. At the Presidential election of 1892 CLEVELAND was beaten by a plurality of only 2,637 votes, or less than the number of negro votes in 1900. In 1896 BRYAN was beaten by the great plurality for that State of 22,978, but in 1900 that plurality was reduced to 13,972. A Republican Governor was elected in the same year by a plurality of only 8,859,

and arbitrary alien rule substituted for further reduced to 6,537, while in 1902 and 1903 the Democrats won.

The five States of California, Connecticut, Indiana, New Jersey and New York latest State elections by pluralities aggregating 78 758, or less than the aggregate number of 79,372 negroes of voting age in them in 1900.

Other Northern States in which the negro voters are relatively numerous

are also included in	the table:	
		Republica
	Negro Vote.	Plurality
Illinois	29,763	94,93
Kansas	14,095	23,3
Massachusetts	10,458	81,86
Oh:o	31,235	69,03
Pennsylvania	51,068	288,48
	-	** ******
Total	187,816	557,61

It will be seen that the negroes of voting age in these States were equal in number to more than one-quarter of

the aggregate pluralities. The vast importance of the negro votes in Northern States to the Republican party at the election in November is one of the most striking incidents of the political situation. It seems probable that they will be absolutely essential to it in all the States now apparently doubtful. In New York and New Jersey it cannot hope for success except with their aid, and in California, Connecticut and Indiana they are likely to be not less needful.

It is therefore not at all impossible that the determination whether the next | the District Attorney of New York President shall be a Republican or a county had been invited to help investi-Democrat will rest with the negro voters gate the Aldermen, the District Attorof Northern States.

More Wisdom From Chicago Clubwomen.

Chicago is famous for many excellent institutions, one of the most admirable of which is its "clubwomen." Far remote are the old days when women looked with aversion upon clubs, and insisted that their good men should stay at the domestic hearth, sing lullaby over their infant pledges, or, in dressing gown and green carpet slippers, snore over the evening paper. Themselves enriched with the larger life of the clubs, the Chicago "clubwomen" are tolerant and kindly to the men folk. Thus Dr. JULIA HOLMES SMITH encourages man to wander from his own fireside and repeats this variation of "Homekeeping youth had ever homely wits":

" Men who stay at home every night aren't good for anything; it is my observation for a quarter of a century. I side with the men on this question of organizations. I don't like to see a man at home every night, with one foot on the cradle. Clubs and lodges are good things. The man whose attention is given all day to buying or sell ng, to contracts, to figures or to other routine of business is in a rut. He needs change. In the evening, if he goes to his lodge or to his club, the merchant is given an opportunity to meet the banker, the lawyer meets the doctor, the grocer meets the architect, and they all and recreation in it."

The young women of Chicago "are favorable to men's clubs and lodges." by the patent inefficiency and undis- So vanishes the palæolithic jest about "going to the lodge." There is a little bureaucracy during the Crimean war, scratch to the vanity of men in this female readiness to get rid of them, to be Liberator ALEXANDER II. was moved to rejoiced rather than grieved by their abolish serfdom and to inaugurate a absence. Some sociologists hold that scheme of reform which might have cul- highly civilized society is returning to tal to Curb') to the less poetic, but perhaps more minated in the convocation of a parlia- savage conditions, the men associating of a quickstep. Dum bibimus, bibamus. I hope, for men at the club, the women as blessed with liberty, perhaps it is indisciating with women at the club. This is pensable that she shall be subjected to to consider too curiously. We return to make our farewell bow to Dr. SMITH, who tells us that the woman "who does | not enter woman's club life is a narrow woman, as a rule."

MARY M. BARTELME likewise approves men's clubs and calls them "all right." Still, she doesn't "approve of a man's being required by them to be out every night in the week." Here is a point which ought to be settled by some authority to which all good men would Clubs is the only such authority. How many "nights out" in a week is a married man entitled to? No man of spirit would consent to less than two. Three is a conservative estimate. Four is a plurality. Would five be considered too much? In the absence of irreversible decisions on these questions, some "clubmen" may, innocently, take six. But all conservatives will regard seven as rather too liberal an allowance.

One dictum of the Chicago "clubwomen" seems a little strange. "I don't believe in women playing cards in the daytime," says MARY M. BARTELME. Even Dr. Julia Smith doesn't regard whist parties in the morning, euchre parties in the afternoon as "defensible." Is there such parrowness even in celestial minds? There is no necessary and vital connection between cards and homes are furnished from turret to foundation stone with prizes won at daylight euchres. The Chicago clubwomen," liberal as they are, are not liberal enough.

A Gun Factory in Lhasa.

With something like astonishment we read that the unwarlike Tibetans have started an arms factory at Lhasa and are turning out rifles which, though of to 1,000 yards. It is to be feared that the lesson the British have taught the Tibetans, and which they have so quickly learned, is going to prove their

undoing. Only a short time ago the British Premier, Mr. BALFOUR, announced the intention of his Government to adopt a new line of policy toward Tibet, one amounting to a reversal of that followed by Lord CURZON, which led to the present situation there: but it will be difficult, in face of the provocation given by the Tibetans in their recent attacks on the British, to carry the intention into effect.

The probable result of the determined resistance and of the improving armament of the Tibetans will be that the British will decide to push on to Lhasa; but hardly before reenforcements have been sent over the passes from India. In the meanwhile the now roused Tibet ans will be gathering strength and confidence and gaining time-an important and again in 1901 by a plurality still consideration in a campaign where

active operations with a large force are limited to a few weeks of favorable weather. Of the ability of the British to bring their advance to a conclusion at Lhasa, if they so determine, there cannot be much doubt. The question is as to the wisdom of the whole proceeding.

When Gen. GRANT urged on LI HUNG CHANG the necessity for China to arm against European aggression, the farseeing Asiatic statesman deprecated the idea as well as the policies that might compel its adoption. He wished his countrymen's energies and faculties to be directed rather into the peaceful channels of industry and commerce, and pointed out the danger of driving them to the opposite, to one of war and aggression.

In a minor way, the wisdom and clearsighted policy of the Asiatic statesman are vindicated in the incident of the Tibetan rifles. It is the small cloud, no bigger than a man's hand that tells of the coming storm, when the aggression of the West resented by the East may be met in the way Gen. GRANT counselled and LI HUNG CHANG deprecated.

Aldermen and District Attorney. The Board of Aldermen adopted the proper and dignified course of action in refusing to invite the District Attorney of New York county to act with a committee of their members in investigating the charges of attempted bribery that have been brought against them. If the investigating committee is in need of legal advice, the Corporation Counsel is the official who should furnish it. If neys of Kings, Queens and Richmond counties would have felt justly slighted had they not been bidden likewise to take part in the proceeding.

There is no reason for the public to assume that the Aldermanic investigating committee will not make an honest, searching and exhaustive inquiry into the charges laid before it. When the committee reports it will be known whether it acted in good faith or set out upon its labors with the sole intention of finding in favor of the board.

In the meantime it is well to remember that the District Attorney of New York county has never displayed a disposition to delay the performance of his duties until it pleased the wrongdoers involved to invite him to proceed against them. When and where he should act he decides for himself, and at the proper time he issues an invitation to himself to take part in any proceeding that deserves his attention.

Every citizen of New York hopes that the Aldermen will clear their fame of the slightest suspicion of corruption and wrongdoing, and that the services of no District Attorney will be needed during or after the investigation.

Mottoes.

From the Nutmeg capital, that temple whose pillars are the inimitable legs of the Putnam Phalanx, comes this question, equally inviting to the students of military archaology and to the amateurs of classical learning:

" TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It is reported in military circles that the Ancient and Honorable Art liery Company has changed its time-honored motto of Per Pocula ad Pavimentum (From Cocknany's and history's sake, that this repor is incorrect.

Our correspondent has been misinformed. The Company mottoes in recent years have been the two he quotes. We are glad to learn, however, that the original inscription on its coat of arms is now the official legend. The Boston papers describe, with just enthusiasm, a silver cocktail cup, fourteen inches by twenty, given by the Company to its most illustrious and beloved Commander, Col. SIDNEY MARLBOROUGH HEDGES. bow, and the Federation of Women's This dainty cuplet is inscribed with the original coat of arms motto:

Which, being interpreted freely, is, "We live in Beers, not Years." The restoration of these significant and beautiful words is a new cause for congratulation to all the admirers of this heroic

It is reported from South Africa that brigandage has broken out in the Transvaal and that a band of marauders, about two hundred strong, has been operating in the mountainous Lycenburg district in the north. It is said to be composed of men recruited among the riff-raff of Pretoria and Johannesburg, of whom seven were captured about the middle of last month, the renainler breaking up into small parties that retired into the back country. It is not known what importance is to be attached to the presence of this candlelight. Many happy American organization, the authorities being very relicent on the subject: but it is hoped that the examination of the prisoners taken may give some clue to the matter. The capture of the seven men gave rise to the w.ldest rumors, and the British Government has been urged not to make any further reductions in the garrisons in South Africa for the present.

Efforts will be made in the meantime to find employment for the many who have been left stranded by the ending of the war and the slackness of work, while the habitual vagrants and undesirables, of whom there are a great number, will be deported.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The philosophy of Helman Simon as propounded in to-day's Sun reminds me of the boy who reasoned thus: ess ty is the mother of invention. The locomot ve is an invent Therefore, the loaf of bread is the mother of CORNWALL, N. Y., May 11.

The Purple Cow Located at Last From the Connecticut Valley Advertiser. Mr. Henry Peck of Little Haddam now rides in a two seat surrey and Judge Purple is drawing his lacteal supply from a new cow. They "swapped" Puesday, and the honors, it is said, were about

From an Appreciative Reader We may live without poetry, music and art, And dispense with the joys that religions impart; We may live without dancing, cards, theatres, fun, But what would life be when lacking THE SUN?

I care little for clothes— What is fashion but fussing? I can live without man— What's he good for but cussing And I envy no angels their raptures supernal While the post brings me daily my favorite jour THE RECONSTRUCTION BONDS. The Repudiated \$000,000,000 and the Recent Decision in the North Carolina Case.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The suggestion, made in THE SUN of Monday by a North Carolina correspondent, that the Federal Government should assume the payment of the repudiated bonds of the Southern States, brings to the front an epoch of American history which covers over sixty years of exciting incident and hard fought litigation, of angry reproach on the part of Northern invectors and sharp retort by Southern repudiators. And the end is not yet, for the dry bones of the "Repudiation Question" have been stirred, and a new interest has been given to millions of dollars worth of bonds long considered worthless, by the decicion handed down a few weeks ago from a divided Supreme Court, awarding to the State of South Dakota judgment against the State of North Carolina for \$27,400, and decreeing that if North Carolina does not pay by the first Monday in January, 1905, certain property belonging to the State shall be seized and sold at auction "at the east front door of the Capitol in Washington."

In 1839 one of the Southern States applied to Baring Brothers of London for a loan. The firm, in considering the matter discovered that the Constitution of the United States (Article XI.) prevents an individual from suing a State. They realized that if they should loan money to a State Government, and the State should for any reason decline to pay it back, they would have no redress at law. They would be entirely at the mercy of the sense of moral obligation. To confirm their inference, they consulted Daniel Webster, whose position as the foremost constitutional lawyer and most eminent American statesman of his time made him peculiarly able to give counsel concernin the advisability of the requested loan. Webster, in his grandiloquent periods, acknowledged that Baring Brothers' inference as to the law on the subject was correct, but went on to say the loan was nevertheless a perfectly safe one. He wrote:

Sirs, the States cannot rid themselves of the obligations otherwise than by the payment of their debts. • • • They cannot get round the duty nor evade its source. Any failure to fulfil its obligat ons would be an open violat on of public faith, to be followed by the penalty of dishonor and disgrace: a penalty, it may be presumed, which no State of the American Union would be likely to neur. • • I believe that the citizens of the United States, I'ke all honest men, regard debts whether public or private, and whether existing t home or abroad, to be of moral as well as lega obligation. If it were possible that any one of the States should, at any time, so entirely lose its self respect and forget its duty as to v olate the faith solemnly pledged for its pecuniary engagements.
I believe there is no country upon earth—not even that of the injured cred tor-in which such a pro ceed ng would meet with less countenance or in-dulgence than it would receive from the great mass of the American people.

Whether Baring Brothers made the loan and whether this particular State ever paid it back I do not happen to know. But it is matter of history that within ten years following Webster's eloquent assurance the State of Mississippi borrowed, by the issue of bonds, seven million dollars from a well known European firm of bankers. and declined to pay back a penny of principal or interest, the Governor of the State declaring, wit wh t really sounds like virtuous incignation, that the bonds had fallen into t'e hands of one "in whose veins flows the blood of Judas and of Shylock, and who unites the qualities of both his countrymen. He has mortgages upon the silver mines of Mexico and the quicksilver mines of Spain. He has advanced money to the S blime Porte and taken as security a mortgage upon the holy city of Jerusalem and the sepulchre of our Saviour. It is for this people to say whether he shall have a mortgage upon our cotton fields and make

serfs of our children." And within thirty years ten other Southern States had followed Mississippi's example, to the aggregate sum of three hun-Virginia alone has settled with her creditors The other Southern States owed in 1880 three hundred million dollars, a sum which has since more than doubled by the accre-

tion of interest. The Northern and European investors who held these millions of repudiated bonds tried every means of persuading or bullying the recalcitrant States into settlement. In 1884 it occurred to them to avail themselves of the constitutional provision (Article III., Section 2) which makes it possible for one State to sue another. The Legislature of New Hampshire lent itself to this purpose, and passed an act providing that any individual holder of such bonds might deposit them with the State's Attorney-General and that the Attorney-General should thereupon, acting in the name of the State but in reality as a trustee for the real owner sue the State which issued the bonds. A test case was made up and tried, but the Supreme Court recognized the subterfuge, took account of the relation of agency beween the State and the real owner, and threw the case out of court as being not one between two States, but rather between

an individual and a State. After that the bondholders gave up hope and wrote the sum off their books; public clamor over repudiation died away; and for nearly twenty years the bonds have lain in forgotten pigeonholes, regarded as little more than picturesque souvenirs. Bonds of Florida, of Louisiana, of Arkansas, of the denomination of \$1,000, with another thousand dollars of accrued interest, have sold, and are selling to-cay, for \$8 and \$10 each, a sum which they command more as his toric curios ities than as investments. However, one group of bondholders re-

fused to give up ho; e, and in 1901 the lates chapter in the history of repudiation-s chapter pregnant with possibilities-began with the sending of the following letter from Simon Schafer, a broker at 85 Wall treet, in this city, to an official of the State of South Dakota:

NEW YORK, Sept. 10, 1901 DEAR SIR: The undersigned, one of the mem bers of the firm of Schafer Brothers, has decided after consultation with the other holders of the second mortgage bonds issued by the State of North Carolina, to donate ten of these bonds to the State

of South Dakota.

The holders of these bonds have waited for som thirty years in the hope that the State of North Carolina would realize the justice of their claims for the payment of these bonds. The bonds are all now about due, beside, of course,

the coupons, which amount to some 170 per cent.
of the face of the bond.
The holders of these bonds have been advised that they cannot maintain a suit against the State of North Carol na on these bonds, but that such a suit can be maintained by a foreign State or by one of the United States.

The owners of these bonds are mostly, if not e

tirely, persons who liberally give charity to the needy, the deserving and the unfortunate.

These bonds can be used to great advantage by States or foreign Governments: and the majority owners would prefer to use them in this way rathe han take the trifle which is offered by the debtor. If your State should succeed in collecting these bonds it would be the inclination of the owners of majority of the total issue now outstanding to make additional donat one to such governments as may be able to collect from the repudiating State, rather than accept the small pittance offered in settlement.

The donors of these ten bonds would be pleased
if the Legislature of South Dekots should apply

South Dakota found herself unprepared to accept this very extraordinary gift, but

passed an act entitled: "An Act to require the acceptance and collection of grants. devises, bequests, donations and assign-

ments to the State of South Dakota." Under the provisions of this statute South Dakota accepted the gift and brought suit. North Carolina defended, and the issue ended in March by the decision quoted above. By this decision Mr. Schafer, of course, gets nothing. As Justice Brewer points out, it is fair to assume that Mr. Schafer made the gift with the vague hope that in some indirect way he might profit by the decision. But Justice Brewer goes on to say that the motive behind the gift makes no difference; the bonds belonged, bona fide, to South Dakota, and the judgment quoted was a logical sequitur. thought which inevitably arises is what would have happened if South Dakota had bought the bonds instead of receiving them as a donation. There is no legal reason to believe the Supreme Court would have made a distinction between sale and gift; and there is interest in the possibilityconfessedly remote-of what would have happened if some impecunious and speculatively minded State should buy up the whole six hundred millions of repudiated bonds at a few cents on the dollar and proceed to sue on them.

One fact which greatly reduces the force of the present decision as a precedent for suit on the bonds of other States is that the North Carolina bonds in question were each secured by a mortgage on certain property in the State treasury of North Carolina. The bonds of the other States were of varying forms, and the present decision is a binding precedent only for such of the bonds as have the same terms. NEW YORK, May 11.

THE BRITISH IN TIBET. A Tibetan Lama Records His Patriotic Protest in "The Sun."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I hope you will kindly insert the following contri-bution in your esteemed paper, though it may not be welcome to many; but since it is a truth it must find a place in your free coun try. At this stage of the Russo-Japanese war when every one seems to be against Russia it is France alone that has kept her eyes open and has the courage to hold the balance. France, the mother of all republican institutions, even that of America, the originator of liberty, she is not in any way prejudiced against Japan, much less opposed to her progress. But she cannot afford to allow any of her rivals to profit in any other part of Asia and take advantage of Russia's involving in war with Japan. For instance, what should we think of England's sending

what should we think of England's sending an expedition to Tibet, where two fights have already occurred with indecisive result? Yet it is a political mission, they say.

Is it not a flagrant breach of international morality, is it not a direct proof of how the involving of Russia with Japan has been taken advantage of by England? The English papers take pains to make us believe that they have sent only a political mission in the interests of commerce and science and geography.

they have sent only a political mission in the interests of commerce and science and geography.

What a naked plea! Those at a distance may fall victims to such explanations, but one acquainted with the neighborhood of these mountainous regions and in touch with the native press of India can hardly give credence to such trifling cants.

It is a high time that France and Russia should rise equal to the occasion and demand of England explanations more satisfactory than those bitherto offered respecting the expedition and fighting in Tibet.

It is a mistake to give credence to what emanates from England respecting Tibet and India. Every one knows that very little is known about Tibet. No correct news can find way in the world, except through the interested party, the English, who have taken the opportunity to enter Tibet first.

As such, who can say that some part of Tibet has not been already annexed? Tibetans have neither skill nor language to bring it to the notice of the world. England fanned Japan to rush into war with Russia and now reans the advantage of the dissension between her two rivals.

reans the advantage of the dissension between her two rivals.

England has succeeded for the present in warding off the Indian danger which the well-calculating Russia would have created by fomenting a rebellion for independence bel ind the Indias, and now she is anxious to see the resources of the Japanese diminished, in order to check the growth of the sentiments of freedom and progress in the rest of Asia.

G. Kokraff, Lama, of Tibet.

Asakusa, Tokio, Japan, April 17

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The following, which I came across in my reading to-day, is not a recent despatch from Washington, but a description of Peter III. of

Russia: His military mania knew no bounds. He wished that a perpetual noise of cannon should give him in representation a foretaste of war He one day commanded them to let him hear a hundred pieces of cannon fired at once; and it was necessary, in of cannon fired at once; and it was necessity, in order to prevent the execution of this whim, to represent to him that it would shake the city to the centre. He often rose from table to prostrate himself on his knees, with a glass in his hand, before a portrait of Frederick of Prussia, exclaiming, "My brother, we will conquer the universe to-

National Guardsman's Fling at the Regulars TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Regarding To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Regarding the politico-military anguish of "Long Service," permit a reader to agree with him in so far as concerns the coming so-called army manœuvres, which the press agents have been so studiously booming. It would be an object lesson and a treat to the Regular Army with its unassimilated new officers and mass of raw enlisted men if New York would send a representation. send a representation.

We could show them some things in railroad transportation and quick mobilization. We could transportation and teach them a few cavalry stunts and some scouting tricks. A battery from Brooklyn would open their eyes and prove how antiquated are the mountain betteries of the Regular service. Some pointers in field music could be given, so that the Regulars would have an opportunity to listen to another kind than the freak harmony that passes for music

in the Regular Army.
Incidentally, we could show them the most intel igent material on the globe, and it is not run by doctor, either. However, the sovereign State of New York has nothing particular to learn in a m'ltary sense from a military circus that is dignified by the high sounding name of army manage vres. Time is too valuable in this town. QUARTERMASTER. NEW YORK, May 12.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Noting this morning that Bicycle Policeman Henry Kupfraf will have to pay for a new uniform to replace the one ruined by being dragged-while on him-for a block by a runaway team, which the policeman stopped. I am moved to ask why does not the city replace this uniform at public expense? Why should a policeman whose uniform, or any part of it, is destroyed in the city's interest, pay for it? It is chough to ask of him that he buy it in the first in-stance. Would it not increase the efficiency of the police if each man knew that the city would make od the clothes lost in its defence? Furthermore if the city should take back the ruined uniform, or hat, or whatever it might be, and replace it with new, the old things might be duly labelled and put on exhibition in a Police Museum, where these evidences of bravery would stand for years as incen-tives to other policemen who hesitated to do their duty when they not only risked life and limb, but had to pay for the damages besides. Soldiers pre-serve their battle flags as heroic mementos: and what better battle flags have our policemen than their uniforms scarred and tattered on the field?

From the Hazel Green Herald.

The enterprising firm of H. F. Pieratt & Co. this reek received the largest and finest as shoes that has come to this town in always

Mother---What seems to be the trouble?

Mrs. Neuwed--I--|, always heard Charles was fond of the turf, but I simply can't make him touch a lawnmower.

> The Fisherman. rom the New Orleans Times-Democrat.
>
> Settin' on a log
> An' fishin',
> An' watchin' the cork,
> An' wisuln'.

SECRETARY TAFT'S OPINION. The Views of One Who Hopes for the Independence of the Filipinos.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Kindly allow me space to write regarding your state-ment, in "Two Views of the Philippine Question," that Secretary Taft is opposed to promising ultimate independence to the Filipinos.

Ought you to be so sure that he is still of that opinion? At St. Louis, in the est of his recent speeches on the subject he, as reported, did not repeat the warning against the promise he had previously invariably reiterated. Instead, he said: "We have probably reached a period in which we flad ourselves burdened with the necessity of aiding another people to stand upon its feet and take a short cut to the freedom and the civil liberty which we and our ancestors have hammered out by the hardest toll." The "short cut" to our freedom surely does not sound as if he were still believing that it will take "several generations" to accomplish this task; and "new evidence" sometimes makes it a statesman's duty to revise his first opinion. To a high-minded statesman like the Secre-

tary it must seem weighty new evidence to

find so many of those he and his fellow coun

trymen most respect for their wisdom and

nlightened patriotism believing that the administration in Cuba (where the promise was given) indicates a similar treatment for the Philippines. Moreover, his eyes must have been opened by the recent happenings in those islands revealed by the ultra-loyal in those islands revealed by the dira-loyal colonialist Army and Navy Journal when it quoted with approval from the Manita Times of March 3 the following: "In the face of recent arrests and disclosures it is very evident that the unrest and dissatisfaction covering a large section of the Philippines are more formidable, rightat the present time, than they have been since 'Gen.' San Misuel and his loilowing came to grief more than a year ago. Secretary laft doubtless also knows that the expected effect of making our already informally offered promise of uitimate independence formal and binding through Congress would be to transform these now dissatisfied nine-tenths better filipinos into loyal (both in law and in heart) helpers of the Government, so that they shall become its mainstay in place of the one-tenth baser element through which it now chiefly rules. a baser element that profits in prolonging the mutual distrust that is crippling progress. As has been written (Senate Document 170), after this transformation there would be "no more doubt, no more sullen obedience, no more doubt, no more sullen obedience, no more passive resistance, no more ladronism. It must further be remembered that the colonialist Army and Navy Journal when it

but all hands working together to lift up the people."

It must further be remembered that the only "ultimate independence" asked for and by the Filipinos is independence in internal affairs, under our protection (with all the naval stations we like) in ir ternational affairs just as in Cuba, where it works so well.

Whether our connection with the Philippines was made wisely or unwisely, excepting through some national humiliation (which may God forbid!), in the order of things it can never be entirely severed; so the business question before us is simply whether in dealing with our convoy we would prefer to have the wind with us or against us, knowing that with the promise it would be with us.

Finally, the reported indisposition of Secretary Taft, so very recretable in itself, is further recretable in that it is beeping him at a critical moment, from repeating his views to the public.

Francis E. Woodbruff.

Morristown, N. J., May 11.

Reminiscences of the Edwards Boom. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your editorial "Twilight?" in this morning's SUN recalls that momentous convention at Chicago n 1884, when political history was much changed. Who that was there will ever forget the most noisy of the Edmunds faction strutting about the Palmer House, with shining glasses and brilliant teeth, howling like a wild Comanche Indian that if Edmunds was not nominated he and his cohorts would vote for the Governor of New York, Cleve land? In those days small-brimmed straw hats were fashionable, and the smallest brimmed one in Chicago was worn by "that young dude from New York," as the older men called him, and the crowds laughed in

consequence. The convention nominated Blaine. All the Edmunds delegates were disgusted, as by a combination with the Arthur men the latter could have been nominated and, of course

The most intense and the hard thinking Ednunds men said nothing; many, like Beecher, Schurz and others, voted for Cleveland, and not a few forgot to vote: but the noisiest man in the bunch, Theodore Roosevelt, after swearing he would never consent, went out in the wild and woolly West, received many letters and telegrams, and came back home stumping and whooping it up for James G Blaine. The strings had been pulled and the

button pressed. NEW LONDON, Conn., May 11. The Patriotic Women of Japan

From the Special Correspondent of Harper's Weekly.
With all social barriers down, hand in hand and heart to heart, the millions of Japan are working for one common end—the crushing defeat of Rus sia and the glory of the r country in victory. The practical, every day side of the situation, divested of possibly finespun theories, is that the wealthy and aristocratic men and women are work

ing with the humbler classes to organize relief and aid societies.

The oldest and best known of these is the national Red Cross Society, founded in 1887 by the Government, and presided over by his imperial Highness Prince Komatsu, until his death a year age. The present president is his imperial Highness Prince Kanin. The organization is supported by the subscriptions of the members, who number between one and two millions. It has at the present time a large reserve fund of between \$3,000,000.

time a large reserve fund of between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000 gold.

The Red Cross Society has a branch, or auxiliary, known as the Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association, which was established shortly after the parent

An interesting fact is that all the Princesse chioness Nabeshima is the president and manage of the society. There are 400 women in Tokio alone who are both contributing members and actual workers, and the association has branches all over

From the Kansas Cap Journal.

Bent Murdock pays tribute to the sheep-sorrelpte, which was one of the luxuries of primitive Kansas. "It was dried apple ple from Decembe until grass, or until the square came around with wild gooseberries. But, happy thought! With the coming of the Johnny-jump-up came sheep-sorre! and, with sorghum sweetening, what lovely ples were made. Combread and Missouri bacon, sorghum and buttermilk, with a quarter section of sheep sorrel p.e to finish up. Kansas people of this day and generation don't know what real good

From the Youth's Companion.

An ordinary echo is a curious thing; but, according to the statements of a Frenchman at a watering must have started in America.

"As soon as you have spoken," said the French man, who had secured an audience of wide-eyed tourists, "you hear distinctly the voice leap from rock to rock, from precipice the precipice, and as soon as it has passed the frontier it assumes the Spanish tongue! But yes, I have heard !

A Fine Distinction.

From the Washington Star. "I didn't think you would write an anonymous "I didn't," was the indignant reply. "But you didn't sign your name to it."
"No. But I signed the name of one of the

Royal adiscretion George III. was wondering how the apple got

into the dumpling.
"I don't see how it found the keyhole," he ex Perceiving he had given himself away, he hastil Truly Saburban,

Jean Valjean was living in the sewer.

"They advertised it as a cool summer residence close to the city," he explained. May and December Mary had a l'ttle husband. His fleece was white as snor

The married him because she thrugh He would be sure to go.